

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 01416 161429Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /073 W

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R 161350Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7038

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, SW

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE VISITORS TO SWEDEN

REF: (A) STOCKHOLM 1284, (B) 75 STOCKHOLM 6240

1. MFA OFFICIAL JAN ELIASSON HAS GIVEN US RUNDOWN ON VISIT TO SWEDEN LAST WEEK OF PORTUGUESE EDUCATION MINISTER VITOR ALVES. (REFTEL). ALVES WAS GUEST OF EDUCATION MINISTER ZACHRISSON, AND EMPHASIS WAS ON EDUCATION, BUT HE ALSO MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SVEN ANDERSSON.

2. ELIASSON SAID HE HAD LONG TALK WITH ALVES, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS "LOW KEY" BUT HIGHLY ARTICULATE, WITH EXCELLENT COMMAND OF ENGLISH. ACCORDING TO HIM, ALVES WAS VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE OF
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 01416 161429Z

PORTUGAL, AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE "SWINGS OF THE

PENDULUM" WHICH HAVE CHARACTERIZED PORTUGUESE POLITICAL LIFE SINCE THE REVOLUTION WILL NOW BE LESS EXTREME. ALVES SAID THAT WHILE HE THOUGH PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) WOULD HAVE PLURALITY IN FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT WOULD NOT WIN ENOUGH VOTES TO ENABLE IT TO GOVERN ALONE. ALVES ADDED THAT ELECTIONS MIGHT HAVE TO BE DEAYED FOR 10 DAYS TO 2 WEEKS FOR "TECHNICAL REASONS."

3. ALVES TERMED THE ECONOMY THE BIG QUESTION MARK FOR FUTURE PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENT. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT EUROPEAN AID PLEDGES BE FOLLOWED BY ACTUAL CASH OUTFLOWS, SINCE PORTUGAL HAS URGENT NEED FOR CASH. ALVES SAID GOP IS ALOS WORRIED ABOUT THE INCREASING NUMBER OF ANGOLAN REFUGEES WHO ARE COMING TO PORTUGAL AS WELL AS A POSSIBLE INFLUX FROM MOZAMBIQUE.

4. DISCUSSING SWEDISH ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL, ELIASSON SAID GOS FY77 BUDGET PROVIDES FOR PAYMENT OF FIRST INSTALLMENT (30 MILLION KRONOR; \$1 EUALS 4.40 KRONOR) OF SWEDEN'S DOLLAR RPT DOLLAR 30 MILLION PLEDGE TO EFTA INDUSTRIALIZATION FUND FOR PORTUGAL. GOS EXPECTS TO PAY PLEDGE OVER FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. IN ADDITION, HE CONTINUED, FY77 BUDGET PROVIDES 10 MILLION KRONOR IN AID TO PORTUGAL, DIVIED EQUALLY BETWEEN EDUCATION AND HOUSING. GOS EXPECTS TO GIVE SKR. 10 MILLION KRONOR FOR SAME PURPOSES ALSO IN FY78 AND 79. ACCORDING TO ELIASSON, THE PORTUGUESE ARE VERY SATISFIED WITH AMOUNT OF SWEDISH AID AND DID NOT ASK FOR ANY INCREASE.

5. ELIASSON SAID GOS WILL ALSO CONTINUE NON-FINANCIAL AID TO PORTUGUESE. HE NOTED THAT SO FAR THIS YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN 10 DELEGATIONS OF VARIOUS TYPES FROM PORTUGAL VISITING SWEDEN. IN ADDITION TO FORTHCOMING VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES (REF A), SECRETARY GENERAL FOR COORDINATION ALMEYDA WILL BE VISITING SWEDEN IN NEAR FUTURE. THE SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY WILL CONTINUE ITS ASSISTANCE TO ITS PORTUGUESE COUNTERPART; SUCH ASSISTANCE WILL BE INTENSIFIED WITH ELECTIONS APPROACHING, ELIASSON ADDED.

JOHNSON

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PAGE 03 STOCKH 01416 161429Z

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